

# Fly Fishing

Fly fishing is one of those special outdoor activities that can quickly become a life-long passion. At its most basic, fly fishing is simple, using a flexible rod, a fly line, leader and a feathered hook. Yet the sport can quickly evolve into a pursuit unlike any other fishing method. Fly fishing is usually thought of as a stream surface fishing method, but techniques and equipment have changed over the years; all waters and depths can now be fished.

Quality, inexpensive beginner fly fishing kits are common and a fly angler can get started for less than a hundred dollars. The fly rod is usually 7 to 9

fly and is usually 6 to 10 feet long. The fly is usually small and made of various materials tied to mimic a food item that a fish might recognize. When matched together well, the equipment can allow an experienced fly angler to precisely place a fly at distances up to 100 feet.

Like many activities, fly casting is simple to learn but difficult to master. Ask any veteran fly angler and they will tell you that their cast is a work in progress.

Fortunately, help is available for the beginner. Videos, DVDs and fly fishing classes (both from clubs and fly shops) are good places to start. And don't overlook an experienced friend.

Idaho is renowned for its fly fishing waters. Some of the more famous fly fishing rivers are: the Henrys Fork of the Snake River, the South Fork of the Snake River, Silver Creek, the South Fork of the Boise River, Kelly Creek, the North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and the St. Joe River.

Give fly fishing a try. You just might get hooked for life.



Rob Perkins

feet long with a fly reel mounted on the rear seat. Rods can have different flex characteristics, but the rod basically aims and transfers power to the fly line. Fly lines are shot forward with the power of the rod flex.

Fly lines are divided into two general categories: floating and sinking, with a dizzying variety in each category to meet fishing conditions. A monofilament leader attaches the fly line to a



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